



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday
June 19,
2020

DAILY REPORT

34th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 35th Legislative Day on Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 31 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Motions to Disagree

HB 793 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Bill Summary: HB 793 is the Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Act. The bill, tracking sheet, and highlights may be found on the House Budget and Research Office website:
<http://www.house.ga.gov/budget>.

Authored By: Rep. David Ralston (7th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

Rules Calendar

SB 38 Courts; electronic filing requirements of superior and state courts; certain types of filings; exclude

Bill Summary: SB 38 provides a method for the abolition of a county police department and transfer the law enforcement functions of that department to the sheriff of the county. A county police department may be abolished by a local Act of the General Assembly or by a resolution of the governing authority of the county. Any local Act or resolution must be approved by the electors of the county. If approved, the county police department shall be abolished 180 days following the referendum. At such time all property, equipment, records, documents, funds, and other items in the possession or control of the county police department shall be transferred to the sheriff of the county. This Act is repealed on January 1, 2022.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

House Judiciary

Committee 06-16-2020 Do Pass by Committee

Committee:

Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 152 Nays: 3

Amendments:

SB 303 'Georgia Right to Shop Act'; greater transparency of prices for nonemergency healthcare services; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 303 requires each insurer, except health maintenance organizations, to make available on its website an interactive mechanism for members of the public to: compare the payment amounts accepted by in-network providers for health care services; obtain an estimate of the average amount accepted by in-network providers for the health care services; obtain an estimate of the out-of-pocket costs that a person will owe his or her provider for a health care service; and compare quality metrics applicable to in-network providers for major diagnostic categories.

Authored By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

House Special Committee on Access to
Committee: Quality Health Care

Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 128 Nays: 7**Amendments:****SB 315 Mechanics and Materialmen; waiver and release of lien and bond rights/other remedies under the law; provide**

Bill Summary: SB 315 increases the time requirement for payment of a lien from 45 to 90 days. Limited waivers and releases of liens do not affect other rights or remedies made by the claimant. The bill includes the appropriate updated forms to be used upon interim payments.

Authored By: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)
House Regulated Industries
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 147 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 316 Military Spouses; licensed in other states to practice certain professions; obtain a license by endorsement to practice in this state; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 316 requires professional licensing boards to issue an expedited license to a military spouse or transitioning service member who holds a current license, in good standing, with another state; examinations to demonstrate required knowledge may be required.

Authored By: Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Floor Action: Recommit to Rules

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-16-2020 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 336 License Plates; eligibility for certain members of the military to receive special license plates; expand

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 336 adds the Meritorious Service Medal to the list of military medals that are available for special license plates. The bill creates a special and distinctive license plate for past or present members of United States Army Ranger units or graduates of the United States Army Ranger School.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
House Motor Vehicles
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Floor Action: Recommit to Rules

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 346 State Board of Veterinary Medicine; membership; increase; registered veterinary technician member; authorize

Bill Summary: SB 346 authorizes the State Board of Veterinary Medicine to operate a professional health program to provide monitoring and rehabilitation services to impaired veterinarians in the state. A veterinarian is considered "impaired" if the individual is unable to practice due to illness, use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics or chemicals, or any mental or physical condition. The bill allows for the office of the Secretary of State, on behalf of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine, to enter into a contract to provide the services. Any impaired veterinarian who chooses to participate in the program must pay all associated costs. Information provided to the board regarding the monitoring or rehabilitation of veterinarians is to be considered privileged and confidential.

The bill adds a seventh member to the State Board of Veterinary Medicine. The member must be a registered veterinary technician who has practiced for at least five years. The initial term of the member is to expire on June 30 of the fifth calendar year following the effective date, with each successor serving five-year terms.

Authored By: Sen. Ellis Black (8th)
House Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 133 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 358 State Symbols; muscadine grape as the official state grape; designate

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 358 designates the muscadine grape as the official Georgia grape.

Authored By:	Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs	Committee	06-17-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 135 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 391 "Early Prescription Refills During Emergencies Act"; health insurers to provide coverage for early refills of a 30 day supply; require; enact

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 391 requires health insurers to waive time restrictions for refills of a 30-day supply of certain prescription medications during emergencies.

Authored By:	Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Special Committee on Access to	Committee	06-17-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:	Quality Health Care	Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 148 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 405 Superior Courts of the Cobb Judicial Circuit; eleventh judge; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 405 allows for juries consisting of less than 12 persons, but not less than six persons, beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021. In all civil actions in the state courts where a jury is impaneled, an action may be tried by a jury of fewer than 12 persons but no fewer than six persons at the discretion of the trial judge or by consent of the parties, regardless of either party demanding prior to the commencement of the trial term that the case be tried by a jury of 12 persons.

In all civil actions in the superior courts where a jury is impaneled, the parties may consent to a panel of 12 jurors from which to select a jury. When one or more of the regular panel of jurors is absent or disqualified for any reason, the judge, at the request of counsel for either party, shall cause the panel to be filed by additional jurors to the number of 12 before requiring the parties to strike a jury.

When any person stands indicted for or accused of a felony offense, only with the consent of the parties, the superior court shall impanel sufficient jurors so that no fewer than six jurors are qualified to try the case.

Authored By:	Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Judiciary	Committee	06-16-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 109 Nays: 41	Amendments:	

SB 407 Forest Resources and Other Plant Life; harvest and sale of palmetto berries; regulate

Bill Summary: SB 407 provides for the harvest and sale of saw palmetto berries. A saw palmetto berry seller must obtain a certificate of harvest from a landowner indicating permission for harvest to sell to a saw palmetto berry dealer. A saw palmetto berry dealer that purchases berries directly from a landowner must obtain a certificate of harvest from the landowner. Any person that participates in the procurement of saw palmetto berries shall maintain a legible record of all activities and purchase transactions for no less than two years from the date of harvest.

Law enforcement or the director of the State Forestry Commission may issue an order to stop harvest, sale, or use if there is an indication that an individual is in violation of the provisions for the harvest and sale of saw palmetto berries. The berries must be released if proof of the requirements being met are provided to law enforcement or the director. If the violation is upheld by the superior court of the county in which the saw palmetto berries are found, the berries shall be destroyed.

The following violations are considered misdemeanors that may be punished by a fine of no more than \$1,000: the sale of saw palmetto berries to a berry dealer or seller without first obtaining a certificate of harvest; the harvest of saw palmetto berries without obtaining a certificate of harvest

from the landowner; the purchase of saw palmetto berries without obtaining a landowner's certificate of harvest; or knowingly possessing saw palmetto berries that were harvested illegally. A person that knowingly purchases or sells saw palmetto berries valued at less than \$1,500 without a landowner's certificate of harvest may be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by either or both a fine equal to the value of the berries and/or up to one year imprisonment. If the value of the saw palmetto berries exchanged exceeds \$1,500, the person that knowingly purchased or sold the berries may be punished by either or both a fine equal to the value of the berries, up to \$5,000, and imprisonment of up to three years.

Authored By:	Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs	Committee	06-17-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: Nays:	Amendments:	
Floor Action:	Recommit to Rules		

SB 431 Annual Performance Evaluation; definition of "on-time graduation rate"; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 431 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-210, relating to annual performance evaluations, to allow for an on-time graduation rate. The on-time graduation rate will be a parallel graduate rate that only includes the four-year cohort of students that attend a school continuously the previous four years.

Authored By:	Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Education	Committee	06-17-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 122 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 451 Deficiencies Connected with Improvements to Realty and Resulting Injuries; actions that may be brought pursuant to Code Section 9-3-51; clarify

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 451 clarifies that the statute of repose for actions to recover damages for deficiencies connected with improvements to realty does not apply to actions for breach of contract, including, but not limited to, actions for breach of express contractual warranties.

Authored By:	Sen. John Kennedy (18th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Judiciary	Committee	06-17-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 138 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 462 Banking and Finance; duties, powers, and responsibilities relative to industrial loans from the Industrial Loans Commissioner to Department of Banking and Finance; transfer

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 462 transfers the powers, functions, and duties related to industrial loans, renamed in the bill as "installment loans," from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to the Department of Banking and Finance; effective July 1, 2020. "Installment loans" are defined as any contract or agreement to make a loan to an individual in an amount of \$3,000 or less, including the renewal or refinancing of any such loan.

The bill provides procedures for the application, maintenance, and renewal of licenses to engage in the business of making installment loans. Detailed authorities of the department are also established and clarified relating to: the investigation and examination of any applicant or licensee; the issuance, suspension, or revocation of any license; and the department's participation in, and utilization of, the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and Registry.

In the event that a licensee fails to remit the required tax payable to the department on the total amount of interest on any loan collected by a licensee, already required under the Code, the tax will now bear interest at the rate of one percent per month and begin accruing from the date the tax is due until the date the tax is paid.

When applying for a license, applicants are required to provide a corporate surety bond issued by a bonding company or insurance company in the aggregate amount of \$25,000 for the primary location

to be operated plus \$5,000 for each additional location, provided that no licensee is required to have a bond in excess of \$100,000. Additional requirements for the corporate surety bond are also provided.

Authored By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th)
House Banks & Banking
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 136 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

Postponed Until Next Legislative Day

HB 1148 Berrien County; Magistrate Court; provide for election of future chief magistrates

Bill Summary: House Bill 1148 provides for the non-partisan elections of future chief magistrates of the Berrien County Magistrate Court.

Authored By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

HB 1195 Berrien County; office of probate judge; provide nonpartisan elections

Bill Summary: House Bill 1195 provides for future elections for the office of probate judge of Berrien County to be non-partisan.

Authored By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 249 Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; amount of monthly dues paid; increase; amounts collected from fines; revise

Bill Summary: SB 249 allows jail officers who are certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council to become members of the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund. The monthly member contribution increases from \$20 to \$25 per month. The benefit increases from \$17.50 to \$25.15 for each full year of creditable service on July 1, 2020, and automatically increases to \$30 per month for each year of creditable service on July 1, 2021. SB 249 revises the fee structure for forfeited and collected bonds in any quasi-criminal case from a graduated fine to the greater of \$10 or 10 percent. The bill also revises fees collected before pretrial diversion in any quasi-criminal case to \$5 or five percent, whichever is greater. This bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a fiscal retirement bill. The actuarial investigation determines the first-year cost is \$13,798,000, with an estimated total cost to the fund of \$27,838,000; however, the new fee structure generates \$29,772,000 in revenue, and the fund will continue to meet minimum funding standards.

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 294 Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; invest in alternative investments; permit

Bill Summary: SB 294 includes the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia under the definition of an "eligible large retirement system" for the purpose of participating in alternative investments. The Department of Audits and Accounts has certified SB 294 as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Authored By: Sen. Ellis Black (8th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 306 "Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact"; enter into compact; licensing provisions; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 306 establishes the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. The compact allows Georgia to facilitate interstate practice of audiology and speech-language pathology.

Authored By: Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 310 Professions; regulations; provide; certain boxing, wrestling, and martial arts associations and federations; provisions

Bill Summary: SB 310 provides for the profession and licensure of professional structural engineers governed by the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The bill outlaws any persons other than professional structural engineers to practice or offer structural engineering in the state. To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer, an applicant must meet the following requirements: obtain a certification by the board as an engineer-in-training; have no less than four years of experience in structural engineering that is satisfactory to the board; and pass a board-approved written exam. Any applicant who seeks a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer prior to January 1, 2021 and already: holds a valid board certificate as a professional engineer; has a record of primary practice of structural engineering; and is currently engaged in the practice of structural engineering, may submit a signed affidavit to the board to determine if their qualifications meet the requirements for this certificate.

Authored By: Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 318 Education; public forums at public institutions of higher education; provide

Bill Summary: SB 318 is the 'Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act'. The bill provides that the unrestricted outdoor areas of the campuses of the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia's institutions are public forums for their campus communities. The institutions will not prohibit expressive activities in those areas or designate any campus areas as a "free speech zone". Institutions may maintain and enforce restrictions for expression so long as the restrictions are tailored to serve a significant institutional interest and employ criteria that is clear, published, neutral, and provides ample alternative means for expression. Restrictions must also allow the community to assemble spontaneously and to distribute literature.

Individuals may engage in expressive activities that do not materially and substantially disrupt the functions of the institution. Disruptions do not include conduct protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The bill does not prevent an institution from prohibiting student-on-student harassment or unlawful activities.

Institutions may not discriminate against, deny any benefits or privileges available to, or deny recognition to any active or proposed student organization based on actual or anticipated activities. Policies, regulations, and expectations of student expression on campus will be made public by the institution. The institutions will also develop materials, programs, and procedures regarding student expression for all individuals responsible for the education or discipline of students.

The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia will publish an annual report related to its actions on free expression. The report will be shared with the governor and General Assembly on July 1 of each year.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 337 Invasion of Privacy; prohibition against the transmission of photography depicting nudity; include falsely created videographic or still images

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 337 amends Code Section 16-11-90, relating to invasion of privacy, to include falsely created videographic still images of other persons within the prohibition against the transmission of photography or videos depicting nudity or sexually explicit conduct of another person under certain circumstances.

Authored By: Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 340 Childhood Cancer Awareness Day; September 1 of each year; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 340 establishes September 1st as the annual Childhood Cancer Awareness Day in Georgia.

Authored By: Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

SB 394 Attorney General; authority to investigate and prosecute certain crimes and offenses; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 394 provides that the attorney general shall have the authority to employ peace officers during the investigation of human-trafficking cases and other investigations authorized by the attorney general's general powers under the Code. The bill allows the attorney general to investigate medical assistance fraud (Medicaid and Medicare).

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 395 County and Municipal Hospital Authorities; standard of indigency; proceeds from the sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 395 allows hospital authorities that have paid off all bonded indebtedness and outstanding short-term and long-term debt obligations, and hold an irrevocable trust wherein the corpus of the trust is \$75 million or more, to invest a maximum of 30 percent of their funds into the following: shares of mutual funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States; and commingled funds and collective investment funds maintained by state chartered banks or trust companies.

Authored By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 408 Sick Leave for Care of Immediate Family Members; sunset provision relating to such sick leave requirements; repeal

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 408 removes the sunset provision on allowing an employee to use sick leave to care for an immediate family member. The bill allows the Department of Labor commissioner to set the amount for deductible earnings at an amount not less than \$50 nor more than \$300. The bill provides authority and guidelines for the commissioner to adopt emergency rules when the governor declares a statewide emergency. The bill adjusts the maximum benefit amount for claims filed after June 14, 2020, dependent on the state's average unemployment rate. The bill gives the commissioner the authority to establish a work-sharing program.

Authored By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 430 "Quality Basic Education Act"; home study students and private school students to take courses at a college and career academy; authorize

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 430 creates O.C.G.A. 20-2-319.5, which allows home school or private school students to enroll in a college and career academy in the student's resident school system if space is available. The State Board of Education shall create rules and regulations to effectuate the provisions of the Code section. The local board of education will earn FTE funds for each student participating in one or more courses at a college and career academy under the Code section that has a charter with the local board of education.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 442 Property; amendments to property owners' association instruments and covenants that restrict rental of residential lots and plots; prohibit

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 442 provides that an instrument of a property owners' association may not be amended to prohibit or restrict a non-owner occupied lot from continuing to be leased or rented for a initial term of six months or longer pursuant to the preamended instrument. In the event such lot, or any interest in the lot, is transferred for consideration worth \$100 or more, the lot must then conform to the instrument as amended.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 443 Garnishment Proceedings; revise; uniform procedures for garnishment actions; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 443 amends Chapter 4 of Title 18 of the Code, relating to garnishment proceedings, to revise and provide uniform procedures for garnishment actions. The bill states that the 'Civil Practice Act' only applies automatically to garnishment proceedings in state and superior courts and that a person or entity not originally named as a garnishee in an action may not be added as a garnishee by any amended pleading absent a showing that such amended pleading was done to correct or clarify the identity of an intended garnishee.

The bill clarifies what costs may be added to subsequent garnishment balances and that a secured creditor holding collateral, including funds, while any balance is still owed need not deliver the collateral to a garnishment, even if the entire balance is not then due.

Notably, the length of continuing garnishments is extended from six months to three years.

The definition of "private student loan" is established to differentiate these loans from federal student loans. The maximum amount to be deducted from disposable earnings when the garnishment is based on a judgment originating from a private student loan is reduced.

The bill provides when a garnishee may answer a summons without liability for lack of knowledge of a defendant's disposable earnings. If the summons of garnishment states that it is a garnishment based on a private student loan, the garnishee will be deemed to have knowledge of this and is responsible to adjust garnishment accordingly. A new form is created for a plaintiff and defendant to voluntarily lower the garnishment.

Regarding notice, the earliest time for service of notice of a garnishment is identified, return receipt requirements are removed, and statutory service of notice on a defendant is conditioned on a proper attempt to serve, as opposed to proof of completed service. A defendant's actual timely notice of a garnishment satisfies notice requirements. The bill clarifies that before being permitted to satisfy the notice requirement by regular mail, a plaintiff must state under oath that a defendant resides outside the state, has departed the state, cannot be found within the state, or has concealed his or her place of residence. Finally, the filing of a certificate of compliance with service methods now satisfies prerequisites for the disbursement of funds or possible judgment.

Exceptions to current time limits for an additional or renewed summons in a single garnishment are added to accommodate for the extended length of continuing garnishments. Procedures for the treatment of certain funds remaining in the registry of the court, and the subsequent distribution to a plaintiff, are provided.

The bill clarifies that an answer, which may be e-filed, may be sent to the court separately but concurrently with the sending of any funds disclosed in such answer to be owed. When a garnishee is a financial institution (i.e. when a defendant is a bank employee) and is served with a continuing garnishment, the accounts of the defendant are only subject to the length of a financial institution garnishment.

The bill provides that the amount a garnishee pays concurrently when filing an answer shall be, under certain circumstances, paid directly to the plaintiff.

An exception is created to any mandatory e-filing requirements to allow garnishees to file, and courts to accept, paper answers of garnishment. Payroll providers are authorized to file an answer of garnishment on behalf of an entity garnishee. The bill specifies that statutory expenses/fees do not interfere with any contractual arrangement for a garnishee to reimburse itself for the costs of legal processing due to a garnishment.

Orders disbursing funds are included, along with judgments, as a bar to subsequent claims to funds by a defendant. Courts may decline to hear any defendant's claim that is filed after the dismissal of a garnishment action against such defendant. Except in a continuing garnishment, a court may decline to hear any claim by a defendant which comes after a judgment is entered an order to disburse funds is issued, or money or other property is distributed by the court. No claim by a defendant can succeed if it was capable of being raised and adjudicated in any claim previously made in the same

garnishment action by the defendant.

Plaintiffs may file a traverse in response to a garnishee's motion to modify a default judgment, stating that the motion is untrue or legally insufficient. When doing so, the plaintiff bears the burden of proving that the motion was not timely, that the costs to accompany such motion were not paid or incorrect, or that the total of money or property identified within the garnishee's motion as belonging to the defendant was incorrect. If the court finds that a plaintiff's traverse lacked reasonable justification, the court shall award the garnishee a judgment against the plaintiff for the costs incurred in connection with the traverse.

Discretion is removed so a court may not disallow a summons of garnishment to be amended when amount shown to be due on a plaintiff's affidavit is incorrect.

When considering whether a garnishee should be relieved from liability for failure to file an answer the court must now consider any information or circumstances. The bill distinguishes limited protections afforded to plaintiffs, who initiate garnishments, and broader protection for garnishees, who comply with garnishments. Protections for garnishees are expanded to include protection from liability when determining the validity of the form of the summons served compared to the garnishment sought.

The costs required for a garnishee to modify a default judgment in cases where garnishees were paying or repaying costs of appeal by other garnishees are clarified.

The bill expands the individuals against whom a plaintiff is entitled to the process of continuing garnishments, and continuing garnishments for support, to include any garnishee "who is under periodic obligations for payment to" a defendant (i.e. an independent contractor relationship). Answer requirements are clarified for garnishees when the employment relationship with a defendant is terminated or when obligations to the defendant are no longer anticipated.

Finally, the bill provides updated forms conforming to the amendments and changes provided throughout the bill.

Authored By: Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 482 Office of Health Strategy and Coordination; state all-payer claims database; establishment of an advisory committee; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 482 establishes the Georgia All-Payer Claims Database (GAPCD). Claims data is the information included in an institutional, professional, or pharmacy claim for a covered individual, including the amount paid to a provider of health care services, plus any amount owed by the covered individual.

Additionally, the bill creates an advisory committee to make recommendations regarding the creation of the framework and implementation plan for the GAPCD to facilitate the reporting of health care data. The committee will make initial recommendations to the director of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination no later than March 1, 2021. The objective of the GAPCD is to facilitate data-driven and evidence-based improvements in access, quality, and cost of health care in order to understand health care expenditure patterns.

The committee will conduct an evaluation of the GAPCD at least every five years to ensure these purposes are met.

The director will seek funding for the creation of the all-payer health claims database and report to the governor and General Assembly on the status of the funding effort and final data elements recommended by the advisory committee no later than March 15, 2021. The GAPCD will be created if sufficient funding is received through gifts, grants, donations, or appropriations on or before January 1, 2022.

Authored By: Sen. Dean Burke (11th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

SB 489 Lighting Equipment of Motor Vehicles; requiring an amber strobe light upon low-speed vehicles; provisions; repeal

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 489 removes the requirement that low-speed vehicles must display an amber strobe light as a warning to other drivers.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Local Calendar**HB 1163 Randolph County; board of education; change compensation of members**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1163 changes the compensation of the Randolph County Board of Education members. Board members, excluding the chairperson, shall receive \$300 per month, while the chairperson will receive \$350 per month.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 156 Nays: 1

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 06-18-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 1166 Fayette County; school district ad valorem tax; provide new homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1166 provides a new homestead exemption, which has the effect of a valuation freeze, from Fayette County School District ad valorem taxes.

Authored By: Rep. Josh Bonner (72nd)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 156 Nays: 1

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 06-18-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 1167 Atlanta, City of; ad valorem tax for municipal purposes; provide new homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1167 provides a new homestead exemption from city of Atlanta ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in the amount of \$30,000 for each resident of Atlanta who holds real property subject to a written lease having an initial term of not less than 99 years with a landlord that is an entity exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code and who owns all improvements located on the real property.

Authored By: Rep. Park Cannon (58th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Floor Action: Tabled

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 06-18-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 1169 Shellman, City of; filling vacancies on the city council; revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1169 revises provisions for filling vacancies on the Shellman City Council.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 156 Nays: 1

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 06-18-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 1170 Newton County; certain officers; provide method of calculating annual compensation

Bill Summary: House Bill 1170 provides the method for calculating the annual compensation for the Newton County sheriff, tax commissioner, judge of the probate court, the clerk of superior court, and the chairman of the board of commissioners.

Authored By: Rep. Pam Dickerson (113th)

Rule Applied:

House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1171 Newton County; dissolve Recreation Commission; authorize

Bill Summary: House Bill 1171 authorizes Newton County to dissolve the Newton County Recreation Commission.

Authored By:	Rep. Pam Dickerson (113th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1173 Bluffton, City of; mayor can vote to provide a majority on city council; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1173 provides that the mayor of the city of Bluffton can vote on the city council to provide a majority.

Authored By:	Rep. Gerald Greene (151st)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1174 Newton County Public Facilities Authority Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 1174 creates the Newton County Public Facilities Authority and provides for the appointment of members to the authority.

Authored By:	Rep. Pam Dickerson (113th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1175 Port Wentworth, City of; provide new charter

Bill Summary: House Bill 1175 provides a new charter for the city of Port Wentworth.

Authored By:	Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1176 Mountain Park, City of; new term for a city council seat; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1176 provides a new term for a Mountain Park City Council seat.

Authored By:	Rep. Jan Jones (47th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1177 Jefferson, City of; independent school district ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1177 amends a city of Jefferson independent school system homestead exemption by requiring yearly income statements to continue to receiving the exemption.

Authored By:	Rep. Tommy Benton (31st)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1178 Commerce, City of; independent school district ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1178 amends a city of Commerce independent school district homestead exemption by requiring yearly income statements to continue to receive the exemption.

Authored By:	Rep. Tommy Benton (31st)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1179 Jackson County; school district ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1179 amends a Jackson County school district homestead exemption by requiring yearly income statements to the tax commissioner to continue to receive the exemption.

Authored By:	Rep. Tommy Benton (31st)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1180 Chattooga County; Board of Education; election of members; repeal amendment

Bill Summary: House Bill 1180 repeals the local amendment to the state constitution for the election of members of the Chattooga County Board of Education.

Authored By:	Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1181 Johnson County; Board of Education; change compensation of members

Bill Summary: House Bill 1181 changes the compensation of the members of the Johnson County Board of Education. Each member, except for the chair, shall receive a \$200 per diem, while the chairperson shall receive a \$250 per diem for each day of attendance at meetings of the board and while meeting and traveling as a member of a committee of the board on official business first authorized by a majority of the board.

Authored By:	Rep. Matt Hatchett (150th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1182 Hall County Family Connection Network; repeal an Act

Bill Summary: House Bill 1182 repeals an act creating the Hall County Family Connection Network.

Authored By:	Rep. Matt Dubnik (29th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1183 Pine Mountain, Town of; levy an excise tax

Bill Summary: House Bill 1183 authorizes the governing authority of the town of Pine Mountain to levy an excise tax.

Authored By:	Rep. Vance Smith (133rd)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1189 Hall County Commission for Children and Families; repeal an Act

Bill Summary: House Bill 1189 repeals an act creating the Hall County Commission for Children and Families.

Authored By:	Rep. Matt Dubnik (29th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1191 Bacon County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1191 authorizes the Bacon County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

Authored By:	Rep. James Burchett (176th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1192 Pierce County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1192 authorizes the Pierce County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

Authored By:	Rep. James Burchett (176th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1193 Brantley County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1193 authorizes the Brantley County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

Authored By:	Rep. James Burchett (176th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1194 Ware County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1194 authorizes the Ware County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

Authored By:	Rep. James Burchett (176th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1196 Coffee County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1196 authorizes the Coffee County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

Authored By:	Rep. James Burchett (176th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1197 Charlton County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1197 authorizes the Charlton County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

Authored By:	Rep. James Burchett (176th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1198 Hart County; ad valorem tax; increase amount of homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1198 amends a Hart County homestead exemption by increasing the amount of the county exemption for residents 65 and older from \$10,000 to \$15,000 of the assessed value of that homestead.

Authored By:	Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1199 Franklin County; ad valorem tax; increase amount of homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1199 amends a Franklin County homestead exemption for both county and educational purposes by raising the exemption amount to \$20,000 of the assessed value.

Authored By:	Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1200 Wilcox County; board of elections and registration; provide for hiring of employees

Bill Summary: House Bill 1200 provides for the hiring of employees for the Wilcox County Board of Elections and Registration, including an election supervisor, by the county manager.

Authored By:	Rep. Noel Williams (148th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1201 Fulton County; reconstitute board of elections and registration; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1201 reconstitutes and reestablishes the Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration.

Authored By:	Rep. Josh McLaurin (51st)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1202 Fulton County; board of elections and registration; provide for abolition of the board on a date certain

Bill Summary: House Bill 1202 provides for the abolition of the Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration on July 31, 2020.

Authored By:	Rep. Josh McLaurin (51st)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1215 City of Fayetteville Community Improvement Districts Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 1215 provides for the creation of one or more community improvement districts in Fayetteville City.

Authored By:	Rep. Derrick Jackson (64th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1216 Union City; City of; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1216 provides a \$2,000 homestead exemption from Union City ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes.

Authored By:	Rep. Derrick Jackson (64th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1218 Hart County; Board of Education; revise compensation of members

Bill Summary: House Bill 1218 revises the compensation of the Hart County Board of Education members. Each member of the board shall receive \$200 per month for attendance at meetings of the board, while the chair shall receive \$250 per month. Additionally, each member shall receive \$139 for each day of attendance at planning and training sessions; however, such compensation shall be limited to no more than five calendar days each year.

Authored By:	Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

SB 490 City of Cartersville; ad valorem taxes for educational purposes; increase the amount

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 490 increases a \$28,000 homestead exemption to \$60,000 from city of Cartersville ad valorem taxes for education purposes for each resident who is 65 or older or who is totally disabled. The act is automatically repealed on December 31, 2027.

Authored By:	Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	06-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 35th Legislative Day, Saturday, June 20, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Saturday, June 20, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 36th Legislative Day.

SB 294 Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; invest in alternative investments; permit

Bill Summary: SB 294 includes the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia under the definition of an "eligible large retirement system" for the purpose of participating in alternative investments. The Department of Audits and Accounts has certified SB 294 as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Authored By: Sen. Ellis Black (8th)
House Retirement
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-16-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 306 "Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact"; enter into compact; licensing provisions; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 306 establishes the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. The compact allows Georgia to facilitate interstate practice of audiology and speech-language pathology.

Authored By: Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)
House Health & Human Services
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-16-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 310 Professions; regulations; provide; certain boxing, wrestling, and martial arts associations and federations; provisions

Bill Summary: SB 310 provides for the profession and licensure of professional structural engineers governed by the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The bill outlaws any persons other than professional structural engineers to practice or offer structural engineering in the state. To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer, an applicant must meet the following requirements: obtain a certification by the board as an engineer-in-training; have no less than four years of experience in structural engineering that is satisfactory to the board; and pass a board-approved written exam. Any applicant who seeks a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer prior to January 1, 2021 and already: holds a valid board certificate as a professional engineer; has a record of primary practice of structural engineering; and is currently engaged in the practice of structural engineering, may submit a signed affidavit to the board to determine if their qualifications meet the requirements for this certificate.

Authored By: Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)
House Regulated Industries
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 318 Education; public forums at public institutions of higher education; provide

Bill Summary: SB 318 is the 'Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act'. The bill provides that the unrestricted outdoor areas of the campuses of the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia's institutions are public forums for their campus communities. The institutions will not prohibit expressive activities in those areas or designate any campus areas as a "free speech zone". Institutions may maintain and enforce restrictions for expression so long as the restrictions are narrowly tailored to serve a significant institutional interest and employ criteria that is clear, published, neutral, and provides ample alternative means for expression. Restrictions must also allow the community to assemble spontaneously and to distribute literature.

Individuals may engage in expressive activities that do not materially and substantially disrupt the functions of the institution. Disruptions do not include conduct protected by the First Amendment of

the United States Constitution. The bill does not prevent an institution from prohibiting student-on-student harassment or unlawful activities.

Institutions may not discriminate against, deny any benefits or privileges available to, or deny recognition to any active or proposed student organization based on actual or anticipated activities. Policies, regulations, and expectations of student expression on campus will be made public by the institution. The institutions will also develop materials, programs, and procedures regarding student expression for all individuals responsible for the education or discipline of students.

The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia will publish an annual report related to its actions on free expression. The report will be shared with the governor and General Assembly on July 1 of each year.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)
House Higher Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 337 Invasion of Privacy; prohibition against the transmission of photography depicting nudity; include falsely created videographic or still images

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 337 amends Code Section 16-11-90, relating to invasion of privacy, to include falsely-created videographic still images of other persons within the prohibition against the transmission of photography or videos depicting nudity or sexually-explicit conduct of another person under certain circumstances.

Authored By: Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 340 Childhood Cancer Awareness Day; September 1 of each year; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 340 establishes September 1st as the annual Childhood Cancer Awareness Day in Georgia.

Authored By: Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)
House Health & Human Services
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee 03-04-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 394 Attorney General; authority to investigate and prosecute certain crimes and offenses; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 394 provides that the attorney general shall have the authority to employ peace officers during the investigation of human-trafficking cases and other investigations authorized by the attorney general's general powers under the Code. The bill allows the attorney general to investigate medical assistance fraud (Medicaid and Medicare).

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 395 County and Municipal Hospital Authorities; standard of indigency; proceeds from the sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 395 allows hospital authorities that have paid off all bonded indebtedness and outstanding short-term and long-term debt obligations, and hold an irrevocable trust wherein the corpus of the trust is \$75 million or more, to invest a maximum of 30 percent of their funds into the following: shares of mutual funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States; and commingled funds and collective investment funds maintained by state chartered banks or trust companies.

Authored By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)
House Special Committee on Access to
Committee: Quality Health Care

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 408 Sick Leave for Care of Immediate Family Members; sunset provision relating to such sick leave requirements; repeal

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 408 removes the sunset provision on allowing an employee to use sick leave to care for an immediate family member. The bill allows the Department of Labor commissioner to set the amount for deductible earnings at an amount not less than \$50 nor more than \$300. The bill provides authority and guidelines for the commissioner to adopt emergency rules when the governor declares a statewide emergency. The bill adjusts the maximum benefit amount for claims filed after June 14, 2020, dependent on the state's average unemployment rate. The bill gives the commissioner the authority to establish a work-sharing program.

Authored By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)
House Industry and Labor
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 430 "Quality Basic Education Act"; home study students and private school students to take courses at a college and career academy; authorize

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 430 creates O.C.G.A. 20-2-319.5, which allows home school or private school students to enroll in a college and career academy in the student's resident school system if space is available. The State Board of Education shall create rules and regulations to effectuate the provisions of the Code section. The local board of education will earn FTE funds for each student participating in one or more courses at a college and career academy under the Code section that has a charter with the local board of education.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)
House Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 442 Property; amendments to property owners' association instruments and covenants that restrict rental of residential lots and plots; prohibit

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 442 provides that an instrument of a property owners' association may not be amended to prohibit or restrict a non-owner occupied lot from continuing to be leased or rented for a initial term of six months or longer pursuant to the preamended instrument. In the event such lot, or any interest in the lot, is transferred for consideration worth \$100 or more, the lot must then conform to the instrument as amended.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-16-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 443 Garnishment Proceedings; revise; uniform procedures for garnishment actions; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 443 amends Chapter 4 of Title 18 of the Code, relating to garnishment proceedings, to revise and provide uniform procedures for garnishment actions. The bill states that the 'Civil Practice Act' only applies automatically to garnishment proceedings in state and superior courts and that a person or entity not originally named as a garnishee in an action may not be added as a garnishee by any amended pleading absent a showing that such amended pleading was done to correct or clarify the identity of an intended garnishee.

The bill clarifies what costs may be added to subsequent garnishment balances and that a secured creditor holding collateral, including funds, while any balance is still owed need not deliver the collateral to a garnishment, even if the entire balance is not then due.

Notably, the length of continuing garnishments is extended from six months to three years.

The definition of "private student loan" is established to differentiate these loans from federal student loans. The maximum amount to be deducted from disposable earnings when the garnishment is based on a judgment originating from a private student loan is reduced.

The bill provides when a garnishee may answer a summons without liability for lack of knowledge of a defendant's disposable earnings. If the summons of garnishment states that it is a garnishment based on a private student loan, the garnishee will be deemed to have knowledge of this and is responsible to adjust garnishment accordingly. A new form is created for a plaintiff and defendant to voluntarily lower the garnishment.

Regarding notice, the earliest time for service of notice of a garnishment is identified, return receipt requirements are removed, and statutory service of notice on a defendant is conditioned on a proper attempt to serve, as opposed to proof of completed service. A defendant's actual timely notice of a garnishment satisfies notice requirements. The bill clarifies that before being permitted to satisfy the notice requirement by regular mail, a plaintiff must state under oath that a defendant resides outside the state, has departed the state, cannot be found within the state, or has concealed his or her place of residence. Finally, the filing of a certificate of compliance with service methods now satisfies prerequisites for the disbursement of funds or possible judgment.

Exceptions to current time limits for an additional or renewed summons in a single garnishment are added to accommodate for the extended length of continuing garnishments. Procedures for the treatment of certain funds remaining in the registry of the court, and the subsequent distribution to a plaintiff, are provided.

The bill clarifies that an answer, which may be e-filed, may be sent to the court separately but concurrently with the sending of any funds disclosed in such answer to be owed. When a garnishee is a financial institution (i.e. when a defendant is a bank employee) and is served with a continuing garnishment, the accounts of the defendant are only subject to the length of a financial institution garnishment.

The bill provides that the amount a garnishee pays concurrently when filing an answer shall be, under certain circumstances, paid directly to the plaintiff.

An exception is created to any mandatory e-filing requirements to allow garnishees to file, and courts to accept, paper answers of garnishment. Payroll providers are authorized to file an answer of garnishment on behalf of an entity garnishee. The bill specifies that statutory expenses/fees do not interfere with any contractual arrangement for a garnishee to reimburse itself for the costs of legal processing due to a garnishment.

Orders disbursing funds are included, along with judgments, as a bar to subsequent claims to funds by a defendant. Courts may decline to hear any defendant's claim that is filed after the dismissal of a garnishment action against such defendant. Except in a continuing garnishment, a court may decline to hear any claim by a defendant which comes after a judgment is entered an order to disburse funds is issued, or money or other property is distributed by the court. No claim by a defendant can succeed if it was capable of being raised and adjudicated in any claim previously made in the same garnishment action by the defendant.

Plaintiffs may file a traverse in response to a garnishee's motion to modify a default judgment, stating that the motion is untrue or legally insufficient. When doing so, the plaintiff bears the burden of proving that the motion was not timely, that the costs to accompany such motion were not paid or incorrect, or that the total of money or property identified within the garnishee's motion as belonging to the defendant was incorrect. If the court finds that a plaintiff's traverse lacked reasonable justification, the court shall award the garnishee a judgment against the plaintiff for the costs incurred in connection with the traverse.

Discretion is removed so a court may not disallow a summons of garnishment to be amended when amount show to be due on a plaintiff's affidavit is incorrect.

When considering whether a garnishee should be relieved from liability for failure to file an answer the court must now consider any information or circumstances. The bill distinguishes limited protections afforded to plaintiffs, who initiate garnishments, and broader protection for garnishees, who comply with garnishments. Protections for garnishees are expanded to include protection from liability when determining the validity of the form of the summons served compared to the

garnishment sought.

The costs required for a garnishee to modify a default judgment in cases where garnishees were paying or repaying costs of appeal by other garnishees are clarified.

The bill expands the individuals against whom a plaintiff is entitled to the process of continuing garnishments, and continuing garnishments for support, to include any garnishee "who is under periodic obligations for payment to" a defendant (i.e. an independent contractor relationship). Answer requirements are clarified for garnishees when the employment relationship with a defendant is terminated or when obligations to the defendant are no longer anticipated.

Finally, the bill provides updated forms conforming to the amendments and changes provided throughout the bill.

Authored By: Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 482 Office of Health Strategy and Coordination; state all-payer claims database; establishment of an advisory committee; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 482 establishes the Georgia All-Payer Claims Database (GAPCD). Claims data is the information included in an institutional, professional, or pharmacy claim for a covered individual, including the amount paid to a provider of health care services, plus any amount owed by the covered individual.

Additionally, the bill creates an advisory committee to make recommendations regarding the creation of the framework and implementation plan for the GAPCD to facilitate the reporting of health care data. The committee will make initial recommendations to the director of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination no later than March 1, 2021. The objective of the GAPCD is to facilitate data-driven and evidence-based improvements in access, quality, and cost of health care in order to understand health care expenditure patterns.

The committee will conduct an evaluation of the GAPCD at least every five years to ensure these purposes are met.

The director will seek funding for the creation of the all-payer health claims database and report to the governor and General Assembly on the status of the funding effort and final data elements recommended by the advisory committee no later than March 15, 2021. The GAPCD will be created if sufficient funding is received through gifts, grants, donations, or appropriations on or before January 1, 2022.

Authored By: Sen. Dean Burke (11th)
House Health & Human Services
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-16-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 489 Lighting Equipment of Motor Vehicles; requiring an amber strobe light upon low-speed vehicles; provisions; repeal

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 489 removes the requirement that low-speed vehicles must display an amber strobe light as a warning to other drivers.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
House Motor Vehicles
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 06-17-2020 Do Pass
Action:

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Education Committee

SB 367 Effectiveness of Educational Programs; number of student assessments; reduce; when assessments must be administered; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 367 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-281, relating to assessments, by reducing the number of state assessments given to students. SB 367 eliminates the fifth grade end-of-grade social studies assessment and reduces the number of end-of-course assessments in high school from eight to four. School systems must administer the state required end-of-grade assessment for grades three through eight within 25 school days of the last day of school. The Department of Education is authorized to conduct an analysis of locally implemented assessments and provide guidance to eliminate redundant assessments to improve student achievement.

Authored By: Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)
House Education
Committee:

Committee 06-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Governmental Affairs Committee

SB 504 Electors of Glynn County; nonbinding advisory referendum; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 504 provides for a nonbinding advisory referendum for the residents of Glynn County to vote on whether the Glynn County Board of Commissioners should abolish the Glynn County Police Department.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Committee 06-19-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SB 509 Glynn County Police Department; abolish; transfer of assets and property of such police department; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 509 abolishes the Glynn County Police Department, subject to voter approval of a binding referendum. If the referendum passes, the police department will be abolished on May 2, 2021.

Authored By: Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Committee 06-19-2020 Do Pass
Action:

SR 793 Joint Private Financing of Infrastructure Study Committee; create

Bill Summary: Senate Resolution 793 creates the Joint Private Financing of Infrastructure Study Committee. The committee is charged with the following as it relates to public infrastructure, government facilities, and public projects: gathering feedback from the public sector, identifying legal or regulatory impediments to public-private partnerships, finding solutions to the impediments to public-private partnerships, and educating public and private officials on the pursuit of public-private partnerships.

The committee is composed of 19 members, including the following: members appointed by the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives, the executive director of Georgians First Commission, the executive director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia, and the mayor of the city of Atlanta. The committee is abolished on December 1, 2020.

Authored By: Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)

House
Committee: Governmental Affairs

Committee
Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass

Juvenile Justice Committee

SB 335 Children and Youth; foster children and foster families; laws and supports; strengthen

Bill Summary: SB 335 allows foster parents free admission into state parks. In addition, a tracking system must be developed for cases involving foster care. The bill gives hearings involving dependency issues to take priority over cases involving jury trials. The bill allows for the Division of Family and Children Services to work with child placement agencies regarding the hours of training required for foster and respite families. SB 335 also addresses the Lake Lanier Development Authority.

Author: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice

Committee
Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

SB 439 Juvenile Code; enhanced notice to and improved participation of foster, preadoptive, and relative caregivers in certain hearings; provide

Bill Summary: SB 439 ensures that foster parents can be heard in court for hearings. The court must record whether or not the foster parents accept or decline to testify. Notice must be given to the foster parents, which may include email notification.

Author: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice

Committee
Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass

SB 477 Investigation of Family Violence; terminology used in determining whom to arrest; revise

Bill Summary: SB 477 allows officers making an arrest regarding mutual combat in domestic violence situations to decide which party caused the violence and is the predominate aggressor requiring arrest.

Author: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice

Committee
Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass

Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

SB 301 Detainers; inmates charged with subsequent felony offenses under sentence and in custody; temporary custody provisions; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 301 allows the sheriff to request an inmate in the state penal system to remain in state custody when awaiting trial for an offense committed within the confines of the state correctional institution. The bill places authority to grant those requests with the commissioner of the Department of Corrections and goes on to prohibit the transfer of such inmates to an institution outside of the county making the request.

Author: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security

Committee
Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass

SB 341 Peace Officers; re-employment of retired peace officers and correctional officers during disasters and emergencies; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 341 allows any law enforcement unit in the state to supplement its workforce as necessary with qualified, retired peace officers or correctional officers when a disaster or emergency has been declared by a county sheriff, a public safety director, or the governor or when there is a national emergency. Any retired officers must be in compliance with the annual training

and qualification standards set for peace officers in Georgia law. Officers assisting have the same immunities and arrest powers as officers of the requesting entity, limited to the location where they are assisting and only for the duration of the specific event. Any compensation is paid by the requesting entity and the officers assisting are, during the duration of the event, deemed employees of the requesting entity and therefore subject to the workers' compensation, overtime, and expense reimbursement provisions provided to him or her as an employee of the requesting agency.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass

SB 342 Local Fire Departments; procedures for organization, issuance and revocation of certificates of compliance; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 342 establishes the Georgia Volunteer Fire Service Council as a division of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council to govern and administer the requirements for volunteer fire departments in the state.

Authored By: Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass

SB 393 Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; duties and powers; revise; campus policemen and other security personnel of the university system; arrests for felony offenses

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 393 codifies the Legal Division of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Any attorneys employed by the division may serve at the request of a district attorney, a solicitor-general, or a United States attorney. When providing assistance to the requesting attorney, they have the same power as any attorney employed by the requesting attorneys.

Authored By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Regulated Industries Committee

SB 296 Funeral Directors and Embalmers; alternative cremation process; provide

Bill Summary: SB 296 allows for the use of alkaline hydrolysis for the disposal of human remains.

Authored By: Sen. Bill Heath (31st)
House Committee: Regulated Industries
Committee Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

SB 321 Physician Assistants; relating to the number a physician can authorize and supervise at any one time; provisions; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 321 authorizes an advanced practice registered nurse to order radiographic imaging tests in non-life threatening situations if delegated to do so by a physician. The bill also brings parity to the number of advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistance that a physician may supervise in a nurse protocol agreement to four.

Authored By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)
House Committee: Regulated Industries
Committee Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Rules Committee

SR 19 Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics; create

Bill Summary: Senate Resolution 19 proposes an amendment to the Constitution to provide for alternative meeting locations and means in certain emergency situations for the General Assembly. In the event of an emergency affecting the state due to an enemy attack or a natural or manmade disaster or pandemic that makes it difficult or impossible for the General Assembly to physically meet in the state capitol, the General Assembly will be allowed to meet at another location or may meet through electronic means.

Authored By: Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)
House Committee: Rules

Committee Action: 06-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Committee Meeting Schedule

This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change. To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit www.house.ga.gov and click on [Meetings Calendar](#).

Saturday, June 20, 2020

9:00 AM [RULES](#) 341 CAP

10:00 AM [FLOOR SESSION \(LD 35\)](#) House Chamber

2:00 PM [PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY](#) 606 CLOB